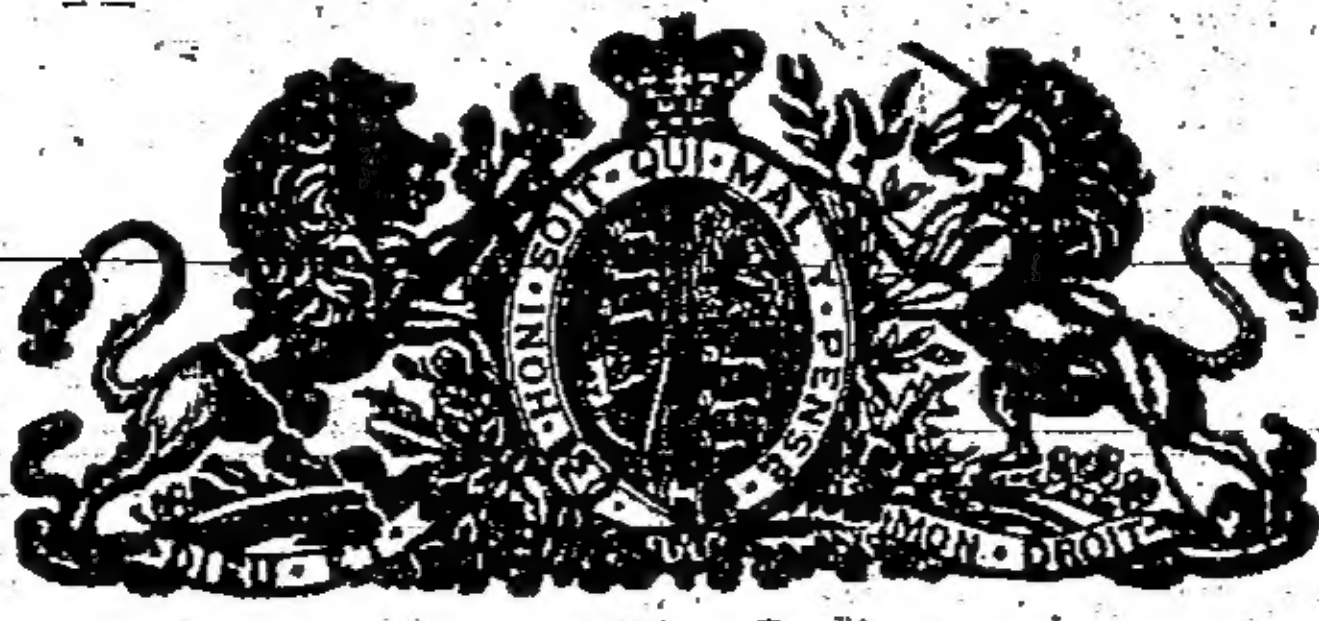


# CHINA



# MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXV. No. 4960. 號一卅月五年九十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1879.

日一十月四年卯己

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

## AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. GORDON & GOTOH, 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTOH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENDY & Co., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE BOSNY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTOH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BARN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—SAYLE & Co., Square, Singapore. C. HEINSEN & Co., Malacca.

CHINA:—Macao, Messrs A. A. DE MELLO & Co. Swatow, CAMPBELL & Co. Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & Co. Foochow, HEDER & Co. Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

## BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars. RESERVE FUND, 1,300,000 Dollars.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq. Deputy Chairman—Hon. W. KESWICK. E. R. BEILIOS, Esq. WILHELM REINERS, Esq. H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq. F. D. SARSON, Esq. H. HOFFMANN, Esq. W. S. YOUNG, Esq. A. MOYER, Esq.

## CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq. MANAGER.

Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq. LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

## HONGKONG.

## INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—  
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " " 4 " " "  
" 12 " " 5 " " "

## LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East, Hongkong, February 15, 1879.

## ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

## RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON FIXED DEPOSITS.

At 3 months' notice 3 per Annum.  
" 6 " " 4 " " "  
" 12 " " 5 " " "

On Current Accounts at Rates which can be ascertained at their Office.

D. A. J. OROMBIE, Acting Manager.

## ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Hongkong, November 29, 1878.

## CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

CAPITAL, 2,000,000. RESERVE FUND, 1,000,000.

## THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

## THE CITY BANK.

## THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

THE BANK'S BRANCH in Hongkong grants Drafts on London and the Chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange Business.

## RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

On Current Accounts, 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits.  
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " " 4 " " "  
" 12 " " 5 " " "

## Bank.

## COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30th APRIL, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP, £3,200,000. RESERVE FUND, £200,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue Bergère, PARIS.

AGENCIES and BRANCHES at: LONDON, BOULBON, SAN FRANCISCO, MARSEILLES, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LYONS, CALCUTTA, HANKOW, NANTES, SHANGHAI, FOOCHEW.

LONDON BANKERS: THE BANK OF ENGLAND. THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking & Exchange Business.

E. G. VOUILLEMONT, Manager, Shanghai.

Hongkong, May 20, 1879.

## NOTICE.

## ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

THE AGENCY of this BANK at Foochow will be CLOSED and WITHDRAWN from 1st July next.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS and FIXED DEPOSIT RECEIPTS will be PAID there AT ONCE with INTEREST to Date, or transferred to this Branch at the Exchange of the Day at the option of Constituents.

GEO. O. SCOTT, p. Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Hongkong, May 28, 1879.

## Notices of Firms.

## NOTICE.

MR. THOMAS WILLIAM WRIGHT is authorised to SIGN our Firm by Procuration from this Date.

SAYLE & Co. Hongkong, May 6, 1879. jn6

## NOTICE.

MR. CARL STIEBEL is authorized from this Date to SIGN our Firm by Procuration here, at Shanghai and at Yokohama.

REISS & Co. Hongkong, May 29, 1879. jn29

## NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of Mr. WALTER SCOTT FITZ, in our Firm in Hongkong and China, CEASED on the 31st December last.

Mr. CHARLES V NOENT SMITH is admitted a Partner from this Date.

RTSSELL & Co. Hongkong, January 1, 1879. jyl

## NOTICE.

MR. JAMES ANDERSON, formerly Manager of the Foochow Dock, has this Day been admitted a Partner in our Firm.

J. INGLIS & Co., Victoria Foundry, Wanchai.

Hongkong, April 1, 1879. jys

## Auctions.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

TO BE SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, shortly, on a day to be hereafter named, unless previously disposed of by private contract,—

THE HONGKONG DISTILLERY, Situate at East Point, Hongkong, now in Complete Working Order, and Capable of Distilling upwards of 2,000 Gallons daily. The Property is of a most valuable nature, comprising THREE PIECES OF GROUND close to the water, viz.—Inland Lots Nos. 749, 781 and 782, with the Substantially Built DWELLING HOUSE and BUSINESS PREMISES, erected specially for the purpose only a few years since, together with the MACHINERY, ENGINES, STILL, VATS, STOCK, and TRADE FURNITURE and FITTINGS.

For further Particulars, apply to Messrs SHARP, TOLLER, and JOHNSON,

Solicitors, Supreme Court House, Hongkong.

Hongkong, March 5, 1879.

## Auctions.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from Messrs LANDSTEIN & Co. to sell by Public Auction, on

## THURSDAY,

the 12th June, 1879, at 3.30 p.m., at their Office, MARINE HOUSE, Queen's Road,—

The following VERY VALUABLE LOT OF LAND, with COAL GODOWNS AND CHINESE DWELLING HOUSES erected thereon, at Praya East, having a Water Frontage of 116 feet by 314 feet, containing about 36,000 square feet, divided into Lots as follows:—

LOT No. 1.—Portion of that PIECE or PARCEL OF GROUND, situated at Praya East in Hongkong. Registered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 428, with Four Chinese Dwelling Houses erected thereon, fronting Cross Street.

LOT No. 2.—Portion of that PIECE or PARCEL OF GROUND, situated at Praya East in Hongkong. Registered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 428, with Four Chinese Dwelling Houses erected thereon, fronting Cross Street.

LOT No. 3.—Portion of that PIECE or PARCEL OF GROUND, situated at Praya East in Hongkong. Registered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 428, with Four Chinese Dwelling Houses erected thereon, fronting Cross Street.

LOT No. 4.—Portion of that PIECE or PARCEL OF GROUND, situated at Praya East in Hongkong. Registered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 428, with Four Chinese Dwelling Houses erected thereon, fronting Nallah Lane.

LOT No. 5.—That PIECE or PARCEL OF GROUND, situated at Praya East in Hongkong. Registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 116, and Inland Lot No. 429, with Three Large Godowns capable of storing 2,700 tons each, and Two Small Godowns with Water Frontage and Servants' Quarters erected thereon.

TERMS OF SALE.—One-quarter of Purchase Money to be paid on the fall of the hammer, and the Balance on completion of Transfer, the expenses of which to be paid by the Purchasers.

The Property to be at Purchasers' risk on the fall of the hammer.

For further Particulars and Plans, apply to

HUGHES & LEGGE, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, May 21, 1879. jn12

## Intimations.

## HYDROGRAPHIC NOTICE.

APPROACHES TO HONGKONG—TYTANT CHANNEL.

POSITION OF DANGER. Lat. 21° 57' 36" N. Long. 114° 07' 59" E. Left Extreme Tylant Island, N. 80° W. Right Extreme " " N. 68° E. Least Water on the Rock (reduced to low Water Springs) 13 feet.

CLEARING MARKS. No Vessel should stand to the Northward of a line joining the S.E. point of Yehau Island with the centre of Guyano Island (bearing respectively from each other N. 67° E. and S. 67° W.) until Yehau Head opens clear of S.W. point of Tylant Island bearing N. 4° W.

This Rock is about 50 feet Long East and West, and 20 feet North and South. Between the Rock and the Island the Soundings vary from 8 to 10 fathoms.

(Signed) G. KING HARMAN, Lieut. and Navigating Officer, H.M.S. "Mouquito."

Approved. (Signed) GEO. A. G. GREY, Lieut. and Commander, H.M.S. "Mouquito."

Hongkong, 8th May, 1879. jn20

This Notice affects Admiralty Chart No. 2219 and Sailing Directions for the China Sea Vol. III, page 79.

## NOTICE.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE.

ADJUSTMENT OF BONDS FOR THE YEAR 1878.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Office are Requested to furnish the Undersigned with a LIST of THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS for the Year ending 31st December, 1878, in order that the Distribution of the PROFITS Reserved for CONTRIBUTORS may be arranged. Returns not rendered prior to the 30th JUNE Next will be Adjusted by the Office, and no Claims or Alterations will be subsequently admitted.

JARDINE, MATHEWSON & Co., General Agents.

Hongkong, 14th May, 1879. jn30

## Intimations.

## WHIT MONDAY.

IN ACCORDANCE with Ordinance No. 6 of 1876, the Undermentioned BANKS will be CLOSED on MONDAY, the 2nd June.

For the "Oriental Bank Corporation," GEO. O. SCOTT, Acting Manager.

For the "Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China," H. H. NELSON, Manager.

For the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China," J. SOMERVILLE, Manager.

For the "Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris," D. FITZ HENRY, Acting Agent.

For the "Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation," T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

For the "National Bank of India, Ltd.," R. H. SANDERMAN, Manager.

Hongkong, May 29, 1879. jn2

## NOTICE.

MR. EDWARD BURNIE will Conduct my BUSINESS of MARINE SURVEYOR during my temporary absence from the Colony.

R. H. CAIRNS, Club Chambers, Hongkong, May 6th, 1879. jn6

## NOTICE.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

DURING the Next THREE MONTHS the Company's Steamers FROM CHINA will proceed direct to LONDON, leaving Hongkong on the following Dates:—

3rd June.....S.S. Lombardy.....tons 2723  
17th "....." Zambesi....." 2431  
1st July....." Teheran....." 2589  
15th "....." Khedive....." 3742  
29th "....." Malwa....." 2933  
12th Aug....." Kaiser-i-Hind....." 4023  
26th "....." Cathay....." 2982  
9th Sept....." Bokhara....." 2932

A. MOYER, Superintendent.

Hongkong, May 22, 1879. jn22

## NOTICE.

HONGKONG COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE.

THE EXCHANGE ROOMS in MARINE HOUSE, Queen's Road Central, will be Open and Ready for the use of MEMBERS, on MONDAY, the 2nd June next.

Applications for admission as Members to be addressed to

E. GEORGE, Secretary.

Hongkong, May 14, 1879.

## YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

## NOTICE.

IN accordance with the Articles of Agreement, the Directors have declared a DIVIDEND to POLICYHOLDERS for the FIFTEEN MONTHS ending 31st December 1878, of THIRTY-THREE PER CENT. on the NET PREMIUM CONTRIBUTED, payable at our Office on and after the 15th Instant.

POLICYHOLDERS are requested to send in particulars of their Contributions.

By Order of the Directors, RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, May 5, 1879.

## DENTAL NOTICE.

DR. ROGERS will visit SHANGHAI during the Summer Months, leaving Hongkong on the 1st of April next, and returning about 1st November.

Hongkong, February 10, 1879.

## NOTICE.

FROM the 1st of OCTOBER, DR. EASTLAKE will receive his PATIENTS at his new DENTAL ROOMS, No. 50, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, over the MEDICAL HALL.

Hongkong, September 28, 1878.

## SAILORS' HOME.

ANY Cast-off Clothings, BOOKS, or PAPERS will be thankfully received at the Sailor's Home, West Point.

Hongkong, July 25, 1878.

## WASHING BOOKS.

(In English and Chinese.) WASHBURN'S BOOKS, for the use of Ladies and Gentlemen, are now ready at this Office.—Price, \$1 each.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

## For Sale.

## FOR SALE.

JULES MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE, in Quarts and Pints. GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co. Hongkong, May 28, 1879.

## HONG LISTS.

Circular, large sheet.

THE AMENDED HONG LIST, in English and Chinese, containing the Names of all the most important Companies, Institutions and Mercantile Houses in the Colony.

Price, 25 cents each; or \$2.50 per dozen.

At the "China Mail" Office.

## Shipping.

## Steamers.

FOR HOIHOW AND HAIPHONG.

(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for HANOL.) The Steamship "ATLANTA,"

Captain G. PETERSEN, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 2nd proximo, at 6 a.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, May 29, 1879. jn2

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHEW.

The Steamship "NAMOA," Capt. WESTON, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 3rd proximo, at 10 a.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, May 30, 1879. jn3

OLANO LARRINAGA & COY.'S LINE OF SPANISH STEAMERS.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT.) The New Steamer "CHURRUUA,"

Captain ABARCA, will be despatched for the above Port on WEDNESDAY Next, the 4th proximo, at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to REMEDIOS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, May 30, 1879. jn4

AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE.

Taking Cargo and Passengers for all Australasian and New Zealand Ports, TASMANIA, NEW CALEDONIA & FIJI.

One of the Company's Steamers

will be despatched as above on or about the 7th proximo.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, May 27, 1879. jn7

## Sailing Vessels.

## FOR FOOCHEW.

The British Ship "BLACK PRINCE," Capt. HEWER, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, May 17, 1879.

## FOR NEW YORK.

The A 1 American Schooner "IRENE," Captain YATES, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, May 21, 1879.

## FOR NEW YORK.

The A 1 American Bark "EDWARD MAY," Capt. JOHNSON, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, April 30, 1879.

## Shipping.

## Sailing V



## To Let.

**TO LET.**  
IN the Houses on MARINE LOT 65, formerly known as the Blue Houses, situate on Praya East.—  
FIRST FLOORS of Nos. 3 and 4, Praya East, with immediate possession.

Also,  
FIRST CLASS GRANITE GODOWNS, attached to Blue Houses at Wanchai, MARINE LOT 65; and BASEMENTS of Nos. 2 and 3, with immediate possession.

Also,  
A SPACIOUS TIMBER YARD, close to the Wanchai Pier. Timber received on Storage or the Yard Rented.

For further particulars, apply to  
MEYER & Co.  
Hongkong, March 4, 1879. jn1

## TO LET.

**TWO HOUSES**, Nos. 29 and 31, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

Apply to  
J. J. DOS REMEDIOS & Co.  
Hongkong, May 9, 1879. jn9

## TO LET.

**OFFICES**, PRAYA CENTRAL, now occupied by Messrs NORON & Co., with possession from 1st June next.

Apply to  
RUSSELL & Co.  
Hongkong, May 28, 1879. jn28

## TO LET—AT WANCHAI.

**FIRST CLASS GODOWNS**, Goods of every description Landed and Stored.

For terms, apply to  
LANDSTEIN & Co.  
Hongkong, April 4, 1879. jy4

## TO LET.

(For Eight Months.)

**THE PARSEE VILLA**, ROBINSON ROAD, FURNISHED. Possession from 1st July next. Rent moderate. For Particulars, apply at  
THE OFFICE OF THIS PAPER.  
Hongkong, May 30, 1879.

## TO LET.

**DUART**, ARBUTHNOT ROAD, at present in the occupation of Messrs GILMAN & Co. Possession from 1st June next.

Apply to  
STEPHENS & HOLMES,  
Solicitors.  
2, Club Chambers, 23rd May, 1879.

## TO LET.

**MARINE HOUSE—WEST.**

**SECOND FLOOR** and a GODOWN. OFFICES in Queen's Road, now under the occupation of Messrs WILSON & BIRD, and Messrs DAVIS & Co.

Also,  
OFFICES and GODOWN in DUNDRELL STREET.

Apply to  
E. R. BELLIOS.  
Hongkong, May 21, 1879.

**"ROSE VILLAS"—FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED.**

BONHAM ROAD, WITH Large TENNIS LAWN. Apply to  
SHARP & DANBY,  
No. 6, Queen's Road Central, late Messrs E. D. SASSOON & Co.  
Hongkong, May 10, 1879.

## TO LET—FURNISHED.

**THE CLIFFS**, near Mount Gough, containing SIX LARGE ROOMS, &c., presently occupied by Dr. ADAMS.

Apply to  
Mr. J. D. HUMPHREYS,  
Hongkong Dispensary.  
Hongkong, May 8, 1879.

## TO LET.

**HOUSE No. 9, ZETLAND STREET.**

Apply to  
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.  
Hongkong, April 23, 1879.

## TO LET.

**OFFICES** in CLUB CHAMBERS.

Apply to  
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.  
Hongkong, April 8, 1879.

## TO LET.

**PORTION** of a HOUSE, very suitable for OFFICES and DWELLING, also for a STORE, Queen's Road Central. Possession 1st March next.

Apply to  
LANDSTEIN & Co.  
Hongkong, February 4, 1879.

## NOW READY.

**A CHINESE DICTIONARY** IN THE CANTONESE DIALECT. Parts I and II; A to M, with Introduction. Royal 8vo, pp. 404.—By ERNEST JOHN EYRE, Ph.D. Tubingen.

Price: Five Dollars, or Two Dollars and a Half per Part.  
To be had from Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Hongkong and Shanghai; and Messrs LANE & WATSON, Shanghai.  
Shanghai, March 1, 1879.

## Mails.



**STEAM FOR**  
SINGAPORE, PENANG, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, MALTA, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, SOUTH-AMPTON, AND LONDON (Direct);  
ALSO  
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND AUSTRALIA.

**THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S** Steamship **LOMBARDY**, Captain W. B. BALL, will leave this ON TUESDAY, the 3rd June, at Noon.

For further Particulars, apply to  
A. McIVER, Superintendent.  
Hongkong, May 20, 1879. jn3

**U. S. MAIL LINE.**  
**PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.**

**THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.**

**THE U. S. Mail Steamship ALASKA** will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 3rd June, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers, and Freight, for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

On Through PASSAGES TO EUROPE, a REDUCTION OF TWENTY PER CENT from Regular Rates is granted to OFFICERS of the ARMY and NAVY, and MEMBERS of the CIVIL and CONSULAR SERVICES in COMMISSION.

Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m., of 2nd June. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo should be sent to the Company's Offices in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the company, No. 9, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, May 30, 1879. jn3

**NOTICE.**  
**COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES.**

**PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.**

**STEAM FOR**  
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT DE GALLE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLES;  
ALSO,  
BOMBAY, MAHE, ST. DENIS, AND PORT LOUIS.

ON TUESDAY, the 10th of June, 1879, at Noon, the Company's S. S. **TIGRE**, Commandant CHAMBERLAIN, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted until Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on the 9th of June, 1879. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,  
Agent.  
Hongkong, May 28, 1879. jn10

**INSURANCES.**  
**SWISS LLOYD**  
**TRANSPORT INSURANCE COMPANY**  
**OF WINTERTHUR.**

**THE** Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, have this Day taken over charge of the Hongkong Agency, and are prepared to grant INSURANCE on MARINE RISKS at Current Rates to all parts of the World.

MEYER & Co.  
Hongkong, February 10, 1879. jn1

**THE SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**

**THE** Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, have this Day taken over charge of the Hongkong Agency, and are prepared to grant INSURANCE on MARINE RISKS at Current Rates to all parts of the World.

Attention is invited to a considerable reduction in Premium for Life Insurance in China.

MEYER & Co.  
Hongkong, August 13, 1879. jn1

## Insurances.

**ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
**THE** Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant INSURANCE at current rates.

MELOHERS & Co.,  
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.  
Hongkong, October 27, 1874.

**QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.**

**THE** Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored therein, at current local rates, subject to a Discount of 20% on the Premium.

NORTON & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

**THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.**

**AGENCIES** at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon and Penang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES.

JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

**THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER of His Majesty King George the First, A. D. 1720.

**THE** Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant INSURANCES as follows:—

**Marine Department.**  
Policies at current rates payable either here, in London or at the principal Ports of India, China and Australia.

**Fire Department.**  
Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

**Life Department.**  
Policies issued for sums not exceeding \$5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.  
Hongkong, July 25, 1873.

**NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.**

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Acts of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

CAPITAL £2,000,000.

**THE** Undersigned, AGENTS at Hongkong for the above Company, are prepared to grant POLICIES against FIRE, to the extent of £10,000 on any Building, or on Merchandise in the same, at the usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20 per cent.

GILMAN & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, July 6, 1876.

**CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)**

**NOTICE.**

**POLICIES** granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two Thirds of the Profit, are distributed annually to Contributors whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

J. BRADLEE SMITH,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, December 9, 1878.

**LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.**

(FIRE AND LIFE.)

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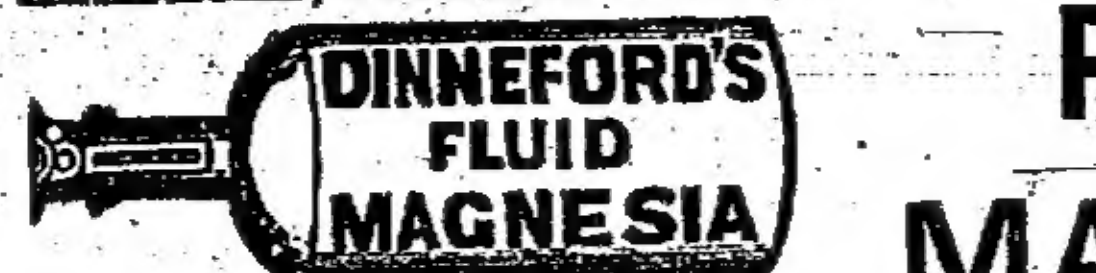
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giving full particulars of OUTFIT and mode  
of proceeding to the less frequented settle-  
ments are also included,



## To-day's Advertisements.

## FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship  
"NINGPO,"  
R. Cass, Master, will be de-  
spatched for the above Port TO-  
MORROW, the 1st June, at 10 a.m.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SIEMSEN & Co.  
Hongkong, May 31, 1879. jai

## FOR SWATOW AND AMOY.

The Steamship  
"ESMERALDA,"  
Captain T. ULLER, will be de-  
spatched for the above Ports  
on MONDAY, the 2nd Proximo, at Noon.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
RUSSELL & Co.  
Hongkong, May 31, 1879. jai2

## FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship  
"ELECTRA,"  
R. Cass, Master, will have  
immediate despatch as above.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SIEMSEN & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, May 31, 1879.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received in-  
structions to sell by Public Auction,  
on  
**SATURDAY,**  
the 7th of June, 1879, at 4.30 p.m., on  
the Premises, for Balance of the  
Term of 999 years,—  
**PORTIONS OF INLAND LOT**  
No. 105, viz.—  
Lot I.—Measuring North 67 feet 7  
in.; South 72 feet 4 in.; East on Cochrane  
Street 31 feet; and West 31 feet 3  
in.;—containing 2,198 superficial feet.  
Crown Rent, \$20.78.  
Lot II.—Measuring North 48 feet;  
South on Gage Street 43 feet 1 in.;  
East on Cochrane Street 45 feet 7 in.;  
and West 45 feet—containing 2,189  
superficial feet. Crown Rent, \$20.79.  
Lot III.—Measuring North 69 feet  
7 in.; South on Gage Street 70 feet;  
East 45 feet; and West on Gutzlaff  
Street 44 feet—containing 3,125 super-  
ficial feet. Crown Rent, \$29.57.  
Each Lot sold will carry with it the  
materials thereon of the Buildings de-  
stroyed in the Late Fire.  
Plans may be seen, and all Particulars  
obtained at the OFFICES of—  
**SHARP & DANBY,**  
No. 6, Queen's Road,  
lately Messrs E. D. Sassoon & Co.  
Hongkong, May 31, 1879. jai7

## CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK

## OF INDIA, LONDON &amp; CHINA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

THE following Rates of Interest are  
allowed on Fixed Deposits:—  
For 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " 4 " " "  
" 3 " 3 " " "  
H. H. NELSON,  
Manager.

Hongkong, May 31, 1879.

## FROM HAMBURG, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Electra*, Capt. Böhm,  
having arrived from the above Ports.  
Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed  
that their Goods are being landed and  
stored at their risk into the Godowns of  
the Undersigned, whether and/or from the  
Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.  
Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless  
Notice to the contrary be given before 4  
p.m. To-day.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the  
6th of June will be subject to rent.  
No Fire Insurance has been effected.  
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
SIEMSEN & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, May 31, 1879. jai7

## Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor  
Owners will be Responsible for any  
Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew  
of the following Vessels, during their stay  
in Hongkong Harbour:—

GOLDEN FLEECER, British barque, Capt.  
James Willschire.—Vogel & Co.

ALEXA, British barque, Captain George  
Robb.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

VESUVIUS, American barque, Captain F.  
W. Call.—Order.

JOHN R. STANHOPE, American barque,  
Capt. H. G. Pillsbury.—Arnold, Karberg  
& Co.

KILLARNEY, British steamer, Captain  
Henry O'Neill.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

ALEXA, O. DICKERMAN, American S.M.  
schooner, Captain W. M. J. Bugant.—Order.

EXETER, American barque, Capt. D.  
B. Eddy.—Captain.

ATLAS.—Danish schooner, Capt. Lakuen.  
—Chinese.

HAWTHORN, British barque, Captain C.  
Mead.—Wieler & Co.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS.

May 31, *Cochitta*, Spanish barque, 430.  
P. F. Arley, Sual (Luzon Island) May 31.  
Sapanwood.—J. E. MEDICES & Co.

May 31, *Pezado*, British steamer, 652.  
Cala, Saigon May 28, Rice.—MICHENER &  
Co.

May 31, *Electra*, German steamer, 1161.  
R. Böhm, Hamburg April 7, via ports of  
call, and Singapore May 24, General.—  
SIEMSEN & Co.

May 31, *Hwai Yuen*, Chinese steamer,  
from Canton.

May 31, *Ningpo*, British steamer, from  
Canton.

May 31, *Anna Bertha*, German barque,  
from Whampoa.

## ARRIVALS.

May 31, *Lombardy*, British steamer, 1726.  
W. B. Hall, Shanghai May 28, Mails and  
General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.  
May 31, *Malacca*, British steamer, 1109.  
H. K. Smith, Yokohama May 24, Mails  
and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.  
May 31, *Norna*, British steamer, 608.  
Walker, Saigon, Quinhon, Touron, Hal-  
phong, and Hoihow May 27, General.—  
Kwon ACHSOKA.

## DEPARTURES.

May 31 *Diamante*, for Amoy.  
31, *Julienne*, for Whampoa.  
31, *Belgia*, for Yokohama and San  
Francisco.

## CLEARED.

*Rojanattianhar*, for Bangkok.  
*Ningpo*, for Shanghai.  
*Hwai Yuen*, for Shanghai.  
*Atlanta*, for Hoihow.  
*Phaton*, for Callao.  
*Gertrude*, for Callao.  
*Paladin*, for Saigon.

## PASSENGERS.

Per *Electra*, from Hamburg, Mrs Weerin  
and child, Mrs Chalmers, Messrs Brandt,  
Lavenberg, Kraus, Holm, Letrene, Reloh  
and Uckel, and 163 Chinese from Straits.  
Per *Lombardy*, from Shanghai: for South-  
ampton, Mrs Robinson and child, Messrs  
O. Nicholson, and R. O. Johnston; for  
Hongkong, Messrs L. J. Lopes and servant,  
A. Jordano, A. Walsh, B. O. Moos, and  
28 Chinese.  
Per *Malacca*, from Yokohama, Messrs  
Terry, R. and Appleton, R. M., 3 Euro-  
peans, and 13 Japanese.  
Per *Pezado*, from Saigon, 30 Chinese.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Belgia*, for Yokohama, His Excellency  
J. Pope Hennessy, Mrs Hennessy, child  
and 2 native servants, Messrs J. Binet, M.  
Kurriah, Jno. Pittman and native servant,  
Mr and Mrs Jaro Ando, and Mr Laeb, for  
San Francisco; Mr and Mrs E. R. Young,  
and 489 Chinese.

## TO DEPART.

Per *Rojanattianhar*, for Bangkok, 169  
Chinese.  
Per *Ningpo*, for Shanghai, 1 European,  
and 80 Chinese.  
Per *Atlanta*, for Hoihow, &c., 2 Euro-  
peans, and 40 Chinese.  
Per *Phaton*, for Callao, 6 Chinese.  
Per *Paladin*, for Saigon, 100 Chinese.

## SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Pezado* reports:  
Light S. to S.S.W. winds and very fine  
weather.  
The British steamer *Malacca* reports:  
On the 31st inst., spoke S. S. *Yangtze*;  
same date M. M. steamer from Hongkong  
to Shanghai, and M. M. steamer to Yoko-  
hama.

## POST OFFICE NOTICES.

## MAILS will close:—

For SHANGHAI.—  
Per *Ningpo*, at 9 a.m. To-morrow, the  
1st June.

Per *Hwai Yuen*, at 9 a.m. To-morrow,  
the 1st June.

Per S. S. *Therap*, on Sunday, June 1st.  
Registry closes at 4.45 p.m. Mail  
closes at 5 p.m. Late Letters received  
from 5.10 to 5.30, with 18 cents  
Late Fee. Paid Correspondence may  
then be posted in the movable box  
on board the Packet. The Post Office  
will be open on Sunday from 8 to 9  
a.m., and from 4 to 5 p.m.

For HOIHOW & HAIPHONG, (with  
Mails for Pakhot and Hanoi).  
Per *Atlanta*, at 5 p.m., on Monday,  
the 2nd June, instead of as pre-  
viously notified.

For SWATOW, AMOY, & FOOCHEW.—  
Per *Namoa*, at 9.30 a.m., on Tuesday,  
the 3rd June.

For MANILA.—  
Per *Churruca*, at 3.30 p.m., on Wednes-  
day, the 4th June.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC.  
The United States Mail Packet *Alaska* will  
be despatched on TUESDAY, the  
3rd June, with Mails for Japan, San  
Francisco, and the United States,  
which will be closed as follows:—  
2.15 p.m. Registry of Letters closes.  
2.30 p.m. Post-Office closes, but Letters  
(except for Non-Union Countries) may  
be posted on board the Packet with  
Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage  
until the time of departure.  
Correspondence for Non-Union West Indies  
(except the Bahamas and Hayti),  
Monte Video, Paraguay, and Uruguay  
can no longer be sent by this route.  
Hongkong, May 30, 1879. jai3

## Quotations.

HONGKONG, May 31, 1879.

OPIMUM.—New Patna, cash, \$542

" Old " " " " "

" New Benares, cash, 615

" Old " " " " "

" N.W. Malwa, credit, 760

" Allowance Taels, " "

" Old Malwa, credit, 760

" Allowance Taels, " "

## Exchange.

Bank, Wire, " " " " 8/4

" Demand, " " " " 8/10

" 30 days sight, " " " " 8/10

" 4 months sight, " " " " 8/10

Credit, " " " " 8/10

Documentary, 6 months sight, 8/10

India, Wire, " " " " 28/4

" Demand, " " " " 28/4

Shanghai, demand, " " " " 28/4

" 30 days sight, " " " " 28/4

Gold Loan, 92 1/2 face " " 28/4

Sovereigns, " " " " 5/12

## Temperature.

(Taken at Messrs Falconer & Co.'s Premises,  
Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, May 31, 1879.

BAROMETER.—9 A.M. " " 30.010

" Do. " " " " 29.980

" Do. " " " " 29.980

Thermometer.—9 A.M. " " 87

" Do. " " " " 85

" Do. " " " " 85

" Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M. 81

" Do. " " " " 80

" Do. " " " " 80

" Do. " " " " 80

" Do. Maximum " " 85

" Do. Minimum " " 79

## MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

## Shipping.

10 a.m.—*Ningpo* leaves for Shanghai.  
Old goods undelivered subject to rent.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.**—The Right  
Reverend Bishop Gordon; The Revd.  
R. Hayward Kidd, Colonial Chaplain.  
Morning Service 11, Evening 6. Holy  
Communion on the first Sunday in the  
month. Wednesday, at 5.30 p.m., Evening  
Prayer and Sermon.  
**Military Service.**—Rev. J. Henderson,  
officiating Military Chaplain. At 8 a.m.  
Morning Prayer, &c. Holy Communion  
on the second and fourth Sunday in the  
month.

**UNION CHURCH.**—Morning Service, at  
11 a.m., Afternoon, 6 p.m.—Divine Service  
in Chinese, 2-3 p.m., every Sunday, with  
communion on the first Sunday of every month.  
—Rev. Dr. Chalmers.  
**ST. PETER'S SEAMEN'S CHURCH.**—Rev.  
J. Henderson. Service at 6 p.m., every  
Sunday and Wednesday. All seats free.  
Morning Prayer and Communion on the  
First Sunday in each month at 11 a.m.  
**ST. STEPHEN'S MISSION CHURCH.**—Rev.  
A. B. Hutchinson, and Rev. Lo Sam  
Yuen. (All Services in Chinese.) Morn-  
ing Prayer—Liturgy, Ante-Communion,  
and Sermon, at 11 a.m. Bible Class, at 3  
p.m. Preaching, at 6.30 p.m. Holy Com-  
munion, 1st Sunday in Chinese month.  
**BERLIN FOUNDLING HOUSE.**—Service in  
the German language, by Pastor K. Klitzke,  
every Sunday, at half-past ten A.M., in  
the Chapel of the Berlin Foundling House,  
West Point.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, Garden Road.**—  
In the morning, Mass at 8 o'clock.

## MEMOS. FOR MONDAY.

## Shipping.

6 a.m.—*Atlanta* leaves for Hoihow, &c.  
Noon.—*Emeralda* leaves for Swatow, &c.

## Amusement.

8.30 p.m.—Free Entertainment at Tem-  
perance Hall, Stanley Street.

## Meeting.

9 p.m.—Meeting of Zetland Lodge.

## Miscellaneous.

Banks close for Whit Monday.

## General Memoranda.

TUESDAY, June 3:—  
10 a.m.—*Namoa* leaves for Coast Ports.  
Noon.—English Mail leaves for ports  
of Call and Europe.  
3 p.m.—American Mail leaves for Yoko-  
hama and San Francisco.

WEDNESDAY, June 4:—  
Goods per *Yangtze* undelivered after  
Noon, subject to rent and landing  
charges.  
3 p.m.—*Churruca* leaves for Manila.

FRIDAY, June 6:—  
Goods per *Electra* undelivered after  
this date subject to rent.  
SATURDAY, June 7:—  
4.30 p.m.—Sale of portions of Inland  
Lot No. 105.

TUESDAY, June 10:—  
Noon.—French Mail leaves for Ports  
of Call and Europe.  
THURSDAY, June 12:—  
3.30 p.m.—Sale of Valuable Land, &c.,  
at the Marine House.

## THE

## HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Established A.D. 1841.

香港大藥房

A. S. WATSON & Co.

FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,

IMPORTERS

OF

DRUGGISTS' Sundries, NURSERY REQUIS-  
ITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH,  
AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT

MEDICINES.

MANUFACTURERS

OF

Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water,  
Gingerale, Potass Water, Sarsaparilla

Water, and other Aerated Waters.

The Manufactory is under direct and  
continuous European Supervision.

Hongkong, June 1, 1879.

The publication of this issue commences  
at 9.05 p.m.

## THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1879.

THE appointment by Governor Hen-  
nessy of a Commission "to inquire into  
the practice and procedure respecting  
the receipt, custody and management  
and disbursement of all monies or  
valuable securities coming into the hands  
of all officers attached to the Supreme  
Court," was first suggested in these  
columns, as far back as the begin-  
ning of September last year; and the  
result of the Commission so issued will  
be found in another column. The delay  
has been caused by a variety of reasons,  
one of which was the illness of two of  
its members; but we are all the more  
ready to overlook this tardiness on account  
of the thoroughness with which the work  
has been done. All that has been hinted  
at as to the dreadful and disastrous  
state of chaos in which books and  
documents in the Supreme Court were  
kept, has been more than proved by the  
matter of fact statements of the witnesses,  
especially by the evidence of Mr Arnold,  
a professional accountant. The system  
upon which monies or valuable securities

were dealt with has been proved to be  
most defective, and no audit or check of  
any kind seems to have been provided  
for the protection of monies or of cre-  
ditors. Even the Government itself has  
been persistently deprived of revenue by  
the ignorance and carelessness of its own  
officials. Under these humiliating con-  
ditions, it is with more than ordinary  
satisfaction that the thorough and ex-  
haustive suggestions of the Commission-  
ers will be regarded by the public at  
large. Although there is probably no  
reason for affixing blame to individual  
officials—the laxity of the system being  
the principal official cause of the late  
defalcations—yet it is only right to state  
that Sir John Smale, as head of the  
Judicial Establishment here, expressed  
himself in the fullest and most emphatic  
manner possible upon the disorganized  
state of the Supreme Court offices, and  
of the necessity of an audit, more espe-  
cially of the accounts of the Official  
Trustees. These representations were so  
little heeded that they were not even  
pigeon-holed, and many of the letters are  
now missing from the archives of the  
Colonial Secretary's office—a fact which  
does not speak highly for the course of  
practice there carried on. What the  
Chief Justice repeatedly wrote in 1874  
1877 was very much to the point; and  
we have no hesitation in saying that  
had his recommendations been attended  
to, the sad experiences of August 1878  
and the exposé of the present Report  
must have been materially modified. It  
is gratifying to note that the Commis-  
sioners, with ourselves, do not think  
that an audit by a subordinate officer of  
the Audit Office would be sufficient, but  
recommend, as an essential point, that  
the Auditor General himself. The report as  
a whole carries with it the public opinion  
of the Colony, as the Governor said in  
the Council; and we think that the  
Commissioners have conscientiously earned  
the unqualified thanks of the commu-  
nity. The prompt action taken by the  
Governor upon receipt of the report, and  
the appointments he has made, will, we  
believe, meet with general approval, and  
we doubt not that, although the changes  
are only experimental, some such much-  
needed reforms will soon become perma-  
nent facts.

There is only one point to which we  
feel bound to take exception in reference  
to this otherwise gratifying public move-  
ment. In the Commissioner's Report  
the following sentence appears: "In sev-  
eral estates there had been overcharges  
of commission, in one estate under the  
charge of Mr Hufham's predecessor an  
overcharge of upwards of \$1000 having  
been made." Mr Arnold expresses an  
opinion, in reference to this transaction  
or slip in figures, that it had been enter-  
ed in a book written by Mr Masson  
but not a word is said about Mr Alex-  
ander. Both of these officers, how-  
ever, have long since finished their  
paltry arithmetical labours; and one  
would have thought the good old  
maxim would have been acted upon—  
"De mortuis nil nisi bonum." Un-  
fortunately, however, this has not been  
the case. "Mr Hufham's predecessor"  
might not have applied to any one in  
particular; but, although it is a pity  
that the unexplained item was mentioned  
at all, it will be regarded by many as a  
most regrettable circumstance that the  
worthy Chief Justice failed to see "the  
eternal fitness of things" with that dis-  
tinctness which generally characterizes  
him when dealing in public with matters  
of a delicate nature. His first blunder  
was in mentioning Mr Alexander's name  
at all—nobody else having ever done so  
in that connection, and the Report and  
evidence being silent on the point; while  
the crowning indiscretion was the man-  
ner in which the speaker alluded to "the  
man who is dead and unable to defend  
himself," in his somewhat inartistic  
endeavour to speak a good word for the  
man whose independence seemed to be  
his only fault. To those who knew the  
high-principled, unbending yet polite,  
but sturdily independent public officer,  
whose integrity, ability and experience  
placed him in the highest offices of the  
Colony, no defence is needed; but it  
would be a pity were the friends of Mr  
Alexander reduced to the somewhat bal-  
ling defence of Sir John Smale, at the  
Council table the other day.

One word more as to the Supreme  
Court. Not a word has been heard  
lately as to the possibility or otherwise  
of the money defrauded being replaced  
by the Government, although it seems  
to us that the reputation of the Court  
and the Government depend not a little  
upon such a step being taken. The  
Judges may say what they please about  
creditors; but the fault was that of the  
Government, not the creditors.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The next INDIAN MAILS may be expected here  
about To-morrow, June 1st, by the opium  
steamers.

We learn that the O. S. S. Co. steamer  
*Stentor*, from Liverpool, left Singapore this  
morning for Hongkong.

In our telegrams from Indian papers re-  
ceived by the mail, published last night,  
the Chartered Bank shares are quoted at  
410 in London on May 12th; the figures  
should have been 278.

We are requested to state that the Post  
Office will be open as usual on Monday.  
The Stamp Office, closed at 1 p.m. today,  
will not open till Tuesday morning, at 9  
a.m. The other Government offices will  
be closed that day, being Whit Monday.

At the Marine Court to-day, Leung Shui,  
master of cargo-boat No. 8413B, was  
charged with throwing a quantity of build-  
ing rubbish into the harbour close to the  
Praya. Defendant said he was merely  
balling his boat out; some sand had got  
mixed with the water. Fined \$5.

We understand that the *Kinshan* is not  
the only vessel which has had her steam  
whistle stolen of late. The *Yotsai* lost hers  
in a similar manner a few days ago. The  
*Kinshan* went away without one yesterday  
morning, and was delayed a good deal in  
consequence, having no means of warning  
boats of her approach. A new whistle will  
cost something like \$50, but a thief would  
not realize more than 50 cents or a dollar  
for the old one if sold as old brass.

The usual fortnightly entertainment at the  
Temperance Hall will take place on Mon-  
day next, the 2nd June, at 8.30 p.m.  
Admission being free, except for civilians  
who will be charged twenty cents. Punks  
have been supplied. The following is the  
programme:—

1. Piano Solo, *Orpheus*.
2. Song, "The Bridge."
3. Song, "Take a lesson from me."
4. Song, "Nil Desperandum."
5. Reading, "Sailor's Lullaby for B. plays."
6. Song, "The White Swan."
7. Song, "Do they miss me at home."
8. Piano Solo, *Adagio*.
9. Song, "Ever of thee."
10. Song, *Banjo accompaniment*.
11. Song, "The Pilgrim of Love."

The German steamer *Electra*, which arrived  
here to-day from Hamburg via the usual  
ports of call, is a new steamer belonging to  
the German Steamship Company of Ham-  
burg. She is a craft of 1161 tons register,  
and is to all appearance a well-built vessel,  
and well adapted for the China trade as a  
first class cargo boat. Her length is 285  
feet over all. She was built at the yard  
of Messrs Doble & Co. of Govan, and her  
engines are by Messrs Inglis & Co. of Glas-  
gow. She attained a speed of 11 knots on  
her trial trip, and averaged 9 1/2 knots during  
the run out. Accommodation is provided  
for twelve first and two second class pas-  
sengers.

The *Loudoun Castle* was to leave



Commander Guimarães of the Portuguese gun-boat *Tefo*; Messrs A. da Silveira, Bastos, J. H. dos Remedios, and several others. The Church was crowded. His Lordship the Bishop officiated, and the ceremony was as usual very imposing.—*Catholic Register*.

An American Company, under the management of Mr. A. Wilson Snow, giving one of those Combination Entertainments which have of late years become so popular, has arrived here, and intends giving a series of entertainments, probably in the City Hall, before continuing its "tour round the world." These articles left San Francisco some four months ago, and had a most successful season at Honolulu, the King of the Sandwich Islands, the Royal family, and the whole suite being present nearly every evening. This Company makes up for its limited numbers by the versatility of its members; and, bringing with them the latest American novelties in the way of "musical selections, operatic sketches, and humorous attractions, they are likely to have an artistically successful short season; we hope it will prove to them pecuniarily so as well.

It was a matter of notoriety before the then Acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Snowden, went home that the course of true official harmony between him and the Governor had been running anything but smoothly. So much so was this the case that a statement of their unpleasant relations was sent Home, and Mr. Justice Snowden was ruled wrong on both the points which were stated by the official account laid before the Secretary of State to have led to the serious misunderstanding or estrangement then existing between the Head of the Executive and the acting Head of the Judiciary. One of the points on which they had differences was the escape from Justice of Mr. Huffam, the other was the pardoning of a man, (convicted of the Shek-O murder), on the ground that he had not been defended by a solicitor as well as a barrister. Mr. Justice Snowden remonstrated against the order to apologize, and sent home an account of the circumstances; he left for England not long ago, as our readers are aware, and will just about have reached England by this time; so that he has not had time to lay his case personally before the Secretary of State. We now learn that a despatch has been received by the mail just to hand, in which the Secretary of State gives his decision that Mr. Justice Snowden must apologize to the Governor for his action in the matter, and that Mr. Justice's Secretary of State was surprised to learn that he had not already done so. This decision is certainly surprising to us, and will be equally surprising to those who have so long known and admired the amiability and invariably gentlemanly and courteous bearing of our absent Puisne Judge.

M. DE GREZ, who has been on a visit to Batavia, had to leave Singapore for Europe the morning after he arrived by the M. M. steamer *Enrique*, and was therefore unable to give an entertainment he had promised in the Town Hall illustrating the uses of the phonograph, where the Singapore people were greatly disappointed. Hong-kong has seen nothing of the kind yet, and it would have been an interesting and amusing scientific exhibition. If bottled-up sounds are to be reproduced by simply turning a crank handle, social usages, and Court and newspaper work will undergo a complete revolution.

A new contract has just been signed between the Pacific Mail and Panama Railroad Companies, which is said to be highly favourable to the Pacific Mail Company. The Pacific Mail stockholders declare that the business of their company has for a long time past been paying the dividends of the Panama Railroad Company, and they propose now to share the profits. The following from New York, April 17, gives the full particulars:—

The amended contract between the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and the Panama Railroad Company has finally been signed by the officers for each company. The reduction on the freight contract obtained by the Pacific Mail Company is \$10,000 per month, payment being fixed at \$80,000 instead of \$70,000, as formerly. It is further reported that the indebtedness of the Pacific Mail Company to the Panama Railroad Company has been very recently reduced \$125,000, and it now amounts in total to \$3,065,000. Payments to be made on this account amount to \$20,000 monthly as a reduction of the principal, together with monthly interest. The receipts of the Pacific Mail Company amount to about \$200,000 per month, and the expense to about \$75,000. Payments are to be made to the Panama Company as follows:—San Francisco freights, \$80,000; South American freights, \$15,000; interest, \$9,000. Payments on principal of indebtedness to the Panama Railroad Company, \$25,000; leaving about \$18,000 monthly surplus, and a monthly reduction of \$35,000 of principal of indebtedness.

The *San Francisco Herald* says that in consequence of the negotiations about treaty revision, which are shortly to take place in Japan, the departure of Sir Harry Parkes from home has been postponed. Sir H. Parkes has been telegraphed to return from London without delay, the departure of H. E. Yoshida for the United States has been put off, and the German Minister is expected to arrive, invested with full powers of negotiation.

The only new English telegram of any interest to hand is one dated "Rome April 16th, to this effect:—Queen Victoria and the King and Queen of Italy, will meet on the 24th inst. at the Villa

of Monza, near Milan. After a walk in the park and lunch, the royal party will return to Baveno and Rome respectively. Their Italian Majesties intended to visit Baveno, but there is no palace or villa there capable of accommodating the united parties and attendants. Queen Victoria, while expressing the pleasure she would derive from a visit from the King and Queen, intimated her desire to save them from inconvenience by going to meet them at Monza. Queen Victoria's visit to Italy will terminate on the 23rd. She will arrive at Paris on the 24th, Cherbourg on the 25th, and in England on the 26th. The statement that the Pope wrote to the Queen, welcoming her to Italy, is declared unfounded.

#### RETURN of Visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending May 25th:—

	European.	Chinese.
Monday, May 19th,	63	349
Tuesday, 20th,	55	276
Wednesday, 21st,	73	277
Thursday, 22nd,	64	234
Friday, 23rd,	74	263
Saturday, 24th,	2	207
Sunday, 25th,	89	
<b>Totals,</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>1,716</b>
<b>Grand total, 2,136.</b>		

#### RIFLE MATCH.

A shooting match came off at Kowloon yesterday afternoon between the Police and the Staff. Owing to the Staff having so few to pick from, they only mustered four cracks to meet an equal number of the Police. Sergeant Toomey made the highest possible score at 200 yards, scoring 7 bullets in succession. The ranges were 200, 400 and 600 yards; any position. The Military were again beaten losing by 45 points; the following is the score:—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sgt. Toomey	21	20	10	51
" Quincey	24	25	18	67
" Grant	22	22	18	62
Lieut. Cameron	23	20	11	54
<b>Total Staff</b>				<b>247</b>

	200 yds.	400 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sgt. M. J. Anson	25	20	18	63
Sgt. Reid	21	20	18	59
" Boyd	23	21	10	54
" Mackintosh	18	12	0	30
<b>Total Police</b>				<b>206</b>

The 27th Regiment and the Police had a return match this afternoon.

#### Police Intelligence.

(Before C. V. Creagh, Esq.)  
Saturday May 31.

##### ASSAULTING AN USHER.

Robert Mann, police constable No. 28, was charged on a summons with assaulting Li Aynn, Chinese usher at the Police Court.

Complainant stated that he was looking for police constable White, and was going up-stairs, when defendant came behind him, and shoved him with his staff. Complainant enquired the cause and defendant then spat in his face. Complainant threatened to report him, and he then repeated the offence.

Defendant denied the charge. Complainant, he said, was going very slowly up the stairs, and he shoved him out of the way. He did not spit at him.

Fine \$2.50; in default three days' imprisonment.

##### CONJUGALITY IN CHINA.

Wong Yan Him, master of the Po Shang Hong, Boukam brand, appeared on a summons for assaulting one Ma Chai Ho, his concubine. The case is interesting as bearing upon the question of the traffic in women which has occupied the attention of the Courts and the public to a considerable extent this week.

Ma Chai Ho, the complainant, stated: I am concubine to the defendant. I have lived with him for three years. He brought me from a brothel. His wife came from Huag Shan on the 27th instant; she had been living with us before, but went away. On the 29th instant the defendant told me to go to his house in the country, and I refused to go immediately, as I wanted to wash my head, and do other business. He then beat me with his fist, and also with his hand.

Defendant stated: My wife arrived on the 27th instant, and the day previous to her arrival, I told the defendant she would have to go, and look after my country house. On 28th instant she went away with her clothes and some money I had given her to take home. I thought she had run away, and went to look for her, and found her in a house in Saiyungpoon. I then took her home, but she refused to enter my house, and made a great noise in the street. I did not beat her.

Mr. Creagh ordered defendant to enter into his personal recognisance in \$100 to keep the peace for twelve months.

##### DISOBTEDYING ORDERS.

Chan Wa Li, a servant at the Temperance Hall, was charged with disobedience of orders in allowing strangers in the servant's quarters at the Hall. The defendant was in head boy at the Hall, and has been employed there for the last eighteen months, had stringent orders not to allow any strangers on the premises. He knew that the reason of this order being given was that some of the Hall property had gone missing, notwithstanding this, he secretly admitted two men into the house this morning.

The manager of the Hall said he did not wish to punish the defendant, as he was a good servant, and it was his first offence; he would however feel obliged if His Worship would impress upon the defendant the necessity of obeying orders.

His Worship having cautioned the defendant, and given him a sound "talking-to" discharged him.

##### BRANDY-FACED GAMBLERS.

Li A-I and four others were charged by Inspector Swanton, as suspicious characters, dangerous to the peace and good order of the Colony.

It appears that a gambler had been arrested at the rear of the Government School on Crown land, at Snow-kwan, and public gambling was carried on there. The Inspector got information of what was

going on, entered the shed, and found a table spread with all the implements necessary for gambling. The defendants were arrested on suspicion.

The case was remanded till Tuesday next.

#### THE COMMISSION ON SUPREME COURT MATTERS.

##### REPORT BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

The Commissioners have, in the course of their duties, endeavoured to confine themselves within the limit of the powers given under the Commission issued to them by your Excellency, and in doing so have had in view to lay before you a full statement of the state of affairs at present existing in the several departments of the Supreme Court, particularly as to the duties and responsibilities of the Registrar of the Supreme Court, the Deputy Registrar, the Sheriff, the Bailiffs and the Officers and Servants in these several departments, also of the Official Assignee, the Official Administrator, the Official Liquidator and of the Official Trustee, and such other persons holding appointments whose duty it is to collect, receive, or dispose of moneys, securities for money, or property, in virtue of their respective offices.

Circumstances having intervened to prevent an earlier meeting, the Commissioners met, for the commencement of their duties, on the 6th of January, 1879.

The Government having employed Mr. Arnold as a proficient Accountant to examine into certain accounts kept in the Supreme Court, the Commissioners considered it desirable to examine him in the first instance. He produced before the Commissioners the books on which he had been engaged, and other books of account relative to matters appertaining to the Court. From the oral examination of Mr. Arnold, and an inspection of the books, the Commissioners are of opinion that the books kept in the Registrar's Office before Mr. Arnold's appointment were wanting in neatness and sufficiency of detail; they also exhibited other defects which, by a proper system, could be easily rectified.

The evidence given by Mr. Arnold was of importance, as it afforded foundation for the minute examination by the Commissioners of the Officers of the Court. Mr. Arnold having examined and corrected the books, thought it advisable to close the accounts to the 31st December in the old books, and to open fresh books dated from the 1st January, 1879, under a more perfect system, which renders these books a great improvement on those previously kept.

From Mr. Arnold's examination it was elicited that the cash accounts in 81 estates in bankruptcy under Mr. Huffam's charge had been balanced, and that, in many instances, balances to the credit of the different estates had disappeared; that in several estates there had been overcharges of commission, in one estate under the charge of Mr. Huffam's predecessor an overcharge of upwards of \$1,000 having been made, and that in a certain estate Mr. Huffam had charged commission on money he had not received.

There are numerous instances of overcharges of commission and other serious errors, but to these particular attention is not drawn, as they are treated of in detail in the evidence of Mr. Arnold and are set forth in the annexed accounts.

Mr. Arnold stated that in the ordinary bankruptcies he found the papers in a very confused state, so much so that it was almost impossible to make anything of them, and, as a rule, there were no accounts filed with the papers of each bankruptcy estate.

The Commissioners would also point out that it appears, from the evidence of Mr. Arnold, to have been the practice for the Registrar for the time being to appropriate to his own use the interest paid by the Banks on money under the charge of the Registrar in current account.

This interest does not appear in any way to have passed through the books of the Supreme Court. The present Registrar has followed the rule in this respect adopted by his predecessors in office.

Not only have there been great irregularities with regard to moneys, much unnecessary delay has also taken place in the settlement of estates. In some instances estates that should have been wound up some ten years ago remain at the present time unsettled.

It is very clear that there has been no check whatever upon any Officer, but a most lax practice has existed for years past in the Supreme Court with regard to the accounts and the general conduct of business. When the Honourable C. B. Plunket undertook the duties of the Registrar, the state of that office was anything but satisfactory, and unless assistance be supplied to him, particularly with regard to accounts, the Commissioners are unable to say for how long the same undesirable state may not continue.

Mr. Plunket informed the Commissioners that he did not think it was the proper work of a Registrar to keep any books himself, he as the head of the office had sufficient in the direction of affairs to occupy him. In this opinion the Commissioners are disposed to agree with him, and they think it extremely desirable that a Registrar, for the purpose of supervision, should have a knowledge of book-keeping, although they are of opinion that the books should be under the immediate charge of a professional Accountant. The Registrar's duties, without any addition in the shape of Accountant's work, are very numerous and responsible, and entail, if thoroughly carried out, a great amount of energy and labour. The duties of the Registrar and the Accountant being performed by separate individuals will afford a much needed check.

It appears to the Commissioners that the accounts which should be filed by every executor obtaining probate from the Supreme Court, and by administrators obtaining letters of administration, have received very slight notice, and there has seldom, if ever, been that searching examination into the value of the estate of deceased persons which is desirable. Without some such check, it is impossible to ascertain whether or not a sufficient amount of duty has been paid upon the value of the particular estate.

The estate of Lyall Still & Co., was not, it appears, under the control of the Registrar of the Supreme Court, and even had he possessed any power to supervise Mr. Huffam, the Official Assignee of the estate referred to, it is doubtful whether, under the lax system then existing in the Court, the same unsatisfactory outcome of the estate would not have occurred, for it is evident that Mr. Huffam was left entirely to himself to do with all moneys which came to his hands as he pleased, such a system as the audit of accounts in the Supreme Court not having then been known.

The Commissioners did not call the Acting Deputy Registrar before them, because he had been so recently appointed.

The Commissioners then proceeded to examine Mr. Sangster, the Clerk of the Court, who was appointed in April, 1874. He had acted in that capacity previously from time to time, and also acted on one or two occasions as Deputy Registrar. This officer is also at the present time Sheriff of this Colony. He has under his direct charge all matters in connection with the Summary Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and has the care and control of the books and records of that division. It appears that he performs his duties without the supervision of any superior officer. He produced his books before the Commissioners, which appeared to have been neatly and accurately kept, but they did not give that full amount of information which might be considered necessary, inasmuch as many important details were wanting, which could not, on the face of the books, be readily ascertained.

There did not appear to be any supervision over or check upon the disposition of the moneys in Mr. Sangster's custody. During the time Mr. Sangster has had the management of the Summary division of the court, he has himself audited and checked the accounts of money received and paid in that department, and these accounts have never been checked or audited by any other person.

The Honourable Francis Snowden, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Hongkong, gave much valuable information and some suggestions, agreeing in many instances with the views of the Commissioners, especially with regard to auditing of the accounts.

Mr. Snowden remarked that he did not see why the Court should undertake bankruptcies if the creditors were so indifferent that they would not come forward and facilitate the realisation of the estate. It was remarked that these estates brought a considerable revenue to the Colony, and that their administration was the proper work of an Official Assignee. The undertaking of these estates is most clearly to the advantage of the revenue of the Colony.

Mr. Snowden informed the Commissioners that Mr. Austin, when he was Administrator of the Government, declined to listen to the proposal of Sir John Smale and himself regarding the Sheriff, and Mr. Austin had stated that he required the appointment and salary of the Sheriff as a make-weight to officers suffering a diminution of salary upon transfer to other offices.

Towards the officers this was certainly generous, but the system by no means guaranteed their efficiency as Sheriff. That the appointment of Sheriff should be promiscuously given to any person requiring "make-weight" without regard to his capabilities or knowledge of so important an office seems certainly disadvantageous to the public.

The Commissioners are of opinion that the Sheriff should have an office in the Supreme Court and fixed hours of attendance during which he may be found there. The inconvenience and damage arising to litigants in consequence of the Sheriff's absence are too evident to require comment.

The duties of the Sheriff would be considerably increased if all distresses for rent were made by him, and the Commissioners consider that in the interests of the public it is advisable that distresses should be levied by the Sheriff alone. The abuses arising out of the present system are severe. The Commissioners, therefore, most strongly recommend that means be taken to frame the laws in accordance with these views.

The fees arising from this particular item would be considerable, and should go far towards payment to the Sheriff of any additional salary that might be required.

Mr. W. H. Mossop, who is Clerk to the Chief Justice and the Appraiser of the Supreme Court, was examined, more especially with regard to matters connected with his duties as Appraiser. The information which he supplied to the Commission was precise, although not extending over a very long period, and his books and papers, which he produced, were satisfactorily kept.

The Commissioners having communicated with His Honour the Chief Justice, Sir John Smale, he expressed himself willing to give his views upon the matter before the Commissioners. He pointed out to the Commissioners many requirements with regard to the checking and auditing of accounts, and gave much valuable information, which has assisted them materially in coming to their present conclusions. Through the courtesy of the Chief Justice, the Commissioners were enabled to peruse a number of long and valuable letters, written by himself to the Colonial Government, upon many important subjects connected with the Supreme Court, more especially with regard to the auditing and checking of accounts. The letters referred to are to be found in the Appendix, pp. 74 to 78, and the Commissioners consider that they should be perused in conjunction with this report.

The Commissioners, thinking it desirable that a Solicitor of experience and who had practised here for a considerable period should be examined, requested the attendance of Mr. W. W. Toller, Solicitor of the firm of Sharp, Toller & Johnson, and submitted for his consideration various suggestions: (1), as to the advisability of the payment of all fees by stamps; (2), as to the employment of a competent Court Accountant; (3), as to the reorganisation of the Officers of the Court; (4), with regard to the working of Estates in Bankruptcy; (5), with regard to Administration; and, (6), with regard to Probates. The suggestions made by the Commissioners on these heads, with regard to the great loss of revenue sustained by the Government, through the want of care and the insufficiency of the labour and attention brought to bear upon these matters by the Officer under whose special charge they should be, were fully concurred in by Mr. Toller.

Commissioners the Honourable Charles May and the Honourable George Philippos were unfortunately, through ill-health, unable to be present at the closing of this Commission, although during the greater part of the investigation they were present and expressed themselves in accordance with the report now submitted to your Excellency. The undersigned Commissioners have greatly to regret that circumstances have deprived them of the assistance of these valuable public officers before their labours were brought to a close.

With regard to the subject matter of this enquiry, the Commissioners beg to recommend the following suggestions for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor:—

1st. It is apparent to the Commissioners, that the thorough reorganisation of the Officers of the Supreme Court is necessary, that the Rules and Orders authorized by Ordinance 18 of 1873 should be framed, that a scale of costs and fees should be drawn up, that each Officer should be bound to find security in a sufficient sum, and that the value of such security should be annually ascertained, that the duty of every

officer should be clearly defined to him, and that until this is done there can be no hope of a satisfactory solution of the present difficulties and inconvenience arising from the want in the Supreme Court of a perfect system.

2nd. The Commissioners recommend a slight addition to the present staff, and they are of opinion that their recommendation, if thoroughly carried out, will add very considerably to the revenue to be collected from the various branches of the Court. It is considered that the Registrar's duties, at present are greater, if thoroughly performed, than it is competent for any one person to perform, as in addition to duties attendant upon proceedings in the various Jurisdictions of the Supreme Court, he has all the important accounts of the Court to make up and numerous Administrations and Bankrupt Estates to attend to without any assistance whatever.

3rd. The Commissioners recommend that a competent Accountant with a knowledge of mercantile affairs should be appointed, who should take upon himself the keeping of all the accounts of the Supreme Court, and thus relieve the Registrar and allow him time for the general supervision of the Officers of the Supreme Court, including its Summary Jurisdiction.

4th. The Accountant should likewise, under the supervision of the Registrar, have the management of all Probate and Administration accounts; it should be his duty to ascertain that sufficient duty is paid, and that the value of each particular estate is correctly stated. It is evident that the rules as to the accounts necessary to be rendered in these matters by the Administrator or Executor have, up to the present time, been very loosely enforced, and the Commissioners are inclined to think that considerable loss to the revenue has been sustained in consequence. It may be pointed out that there being no such check as is insisted, with regard to such estates, in Somerset House in London, it is requisite that such duties should be allotted to this Officer, whose duty it should be to ascertain the truthfulness and accuracy of all such returns or accounts.

5th. The Commissioners consider that the management of all estates coming into the hands of the Official Trustee and Official Administrator and all accounts appertaining thereto should under the supervision of those Officers, be conducted by the Accountant. It was apparent to the Commissioners, that there was a great want of care in the management and control of these matters, in many instances involving loss to the parties interested. It is evident that the Accountant's duties would be very considerable, and would necessitate his entire attention and attendance at his office, from eleven A.M. to three P.M. each day. The Commissioners strongly urge that in no instance should he be desired to perform any duties which would necessitate his absence during that period, so that he might have ample time before eleven and after three o'clock to make inquiries and investigations on matters appertaining to his duties which might call for his attention elsewhere. The duties of the Accountant requiring quietude, the Commissioners recommend that a separate office should, if possible, be provided for him in the Court House or its precincts.

6th. It is further recommended that a competent Chinese Sheriff should be appointed, and that all matters of account, including the receipt and payment of money, should be conducted solely by the Accountant's department. That no moneys should either be received into the Supreme Court or paid out without a voucher or receipt for every such payment. That for every such payment out of Court, the signatures of the Accountant and Chinese Sheriff for any sum less than \$100 should be necessary to any such voucher, and that for every payment exceeding \$100 the signatures of the Registrar and Accountant should be necessary before any such payment. That each voucher should have a counterfoil and be numbered consecutively. That vouchers for the payment of money out of Court should be printed in red, and counters for the payment of money into Court in the ordinary black ink. That each voucher should be filed in the Supreme Court, which would form a ready check when compared with the books. That the payment of sums to the amount of \$100 into the Supreme Court should be made to the Sheriff, who should be accountable for the same, and that sums over that amount should be paid into one of the local banks to the credit of the Supreme Court. The Commissioners consider that interest on amounts standing in the bank books to the credit of the Supreme Court on current account should be appropriated to the general revenue of the Colony, and that provision should be made for the payment of such interest from time to time into the Treasury.

7th. The Commissioners are likewise of opinion, that with regard to Bankruptcies, a most imperfect system has, up to the present, been adopted in realising and winding up the estates. They have ascertained that the few rules framed under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1864, are imperfect. The Commissioners would point out that by the Bankruptcy Act, 1861, in force in England at the time of the passing in Hongkong of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1864, Official Assignees under this Act were required to give security in \$20,000 each. The Commissioners beg to refer to the rules and orders relating to the said Act, which may be found in page 1261, Vol. II, Griffith and Holmes on Bankruptcy, and submit that, in the absence of any rules under Ordinance 18 of 1864, the rules under the English Act before referred to should be deemed the existing rules under the Ordinance, as sec. 7 of that Ordinance provides that if any case should arise which should not have been provided for by any orders made by the Chief Justice of Hongkong, he might, in his discretion, apply to such case any of the general orders then in force in England. Up to the present time most of these rules have, in fact, been acted upon, and until a period shortly before the appointment of the Honourable C. B. Plunket as Registrar of the Supreme Court, the Official Assignee was allowed under these rules to take as his remuneration the fees payable according to the schedule in

force under the rules of the English Court of Bankruptcy, but at the present time a fixed salary in lieu of fees is paid to the Official Assignee, and these fees are now paid to the Treasury of this Colony.

8th. The Commissioners consider it advisable that two competent Officers should be appointed, to be termed Deputy Registrars of the Supreme Court, whose duties more particularly should be attending in the Courts, and performing the duties heretofore performed by the Registrar and the Deputy Registrar, which would give the Registrar, relieved of these duties, time and opportunities to attend to other matters, which, up to the present time, appear to have been very much neglected. The duties of these Officers should be defined and directed by the Registrar. They would keep the records of suits and all other books, not being account books, and assist generally in the copying and other official duties.

9th. The Commissioners having ascertained that the Appraiser of Immoveable Estates has no fixed salary, but receives remuneration by commission, are of opinion that he should have a fixed salary and no commission, as they are strongly of opinion that no Officer of the Supreme Court should be remunerated in any other way than by the former mode. Neither should he be permitted to accept any remuneration or fees whatever, certainly not for work done during office hours. The Commissioners see no objection to the office of Appraiser and Sheriff being held by subordinate Officers of the Supreme Court, provided they are paid by salary.

10th. The Commissioners are of opinion that there should be three or more Messengers or Ushers of the Supreme Court, whose duty it should be to serve all processes and take possession of bankrupt estates, and perform all other ordinary and necessary duties which may be directed by the Registrar.

11th. The Commissioners consider the present system of levying distraints for rent adopted in this Colony is greatly to be deprecated, as it works considerable injustice and hardship upon those classes who are least able to resist it, and they fully coincide with the valuable suggestion given them by Mr. Justice Snowden, that all such distraints should be made by an Officer of the Supreme Court. They would suggest that attention be called to this with the object of obtaining the necessary legislation for carrying this suggestion into effect. The costs and expenses of such distraints should be paid by a commission upon the amount levied, which would be a considerable convenience to the public, and would involve no loss or additional expense to the revenue, as the messengers whose engagement has been suggested might be utilised on such occasions.

12th. The Commissioners consider it advisable that all payments of fees to the Court should, in future, be made by stamps, and Mr. Lister, Collector of Stamp Revenue, having attended the Commission, the recommendation was submitted to him, and he viewed it with approval and considered there would be no difficulty in regard to the Stamp Office. For the purpose of the payment of fees, the use of adhesive stamps should be permitted, and in the case of any process being required after the closing hour of the Stamp Office, such process should issue upon deposit of money to the extent of the fee with the officer issuing the process, whose duty should be to procure the necessary stamp at the earliest opportunity.

13th. The Commissioners consider it most essential that an audit by the Auditor General, and not by any subordinate Officer, should be made monthly of all account books kept in the Supreme Court, and that the Auditor for this purpose should have the aid and assistance of the Registrar in carrying his duties into effect. They think it right to observe that His Honour the Chief Justice has, in the correspondence which has been heretofore referred to, expressed a very strong opinion which supports the view taken by the Commissioners on this head.

W. JACKSON.  
Hongkong, 19th May, 1879.

#### China.

FOOCHOW.

(Herald.)  
We learn, on excellent authority, that the river-barrier officials have been carrying matters with a high hand against the sharp-tusk fishermen, while en route to Foochow with their hard-earned hauls. Formerly it was, we understand, the practice of the fishermen to provide these rapacious understrappers with sufficient stock to meet their personal requirements; but now they are said to be putting on the serow with a vengeance, and the consequence is that many of the fishermen are seeking fresh fields and pastures new.

A very solemn festival is just now, we understand, engaging the attention of our Buddhist friends at Kusan. The object of all this devotional ardour is, we hear, to obtain the divine blessing on the coming grain crops. And a very good object too. We may fairly congratulate Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co. on the possession of the finest steam-launch in the port. This new launch was, we understand, built by Messrs. Inglis & Co. of Hongkong, she was towed from Hongkong by the S. S. *Kwong Tung*, and, after the removal of her temporary bulwarks &c., will, we hear, be ready for her destined river work at an early date.

We hear that some cargo in the fore-hold of the S. S. *Kwong Tung* caught fire shortly after leaving Amoy on the last trip. The supposition is that the fire originated in the overheating of a quantity of old rags taken on board at Amoy. Captain Hunter lost no time in setting his steam-pumps to work, and, we understand, succeeded in extinguishing the flames before any great amount of mischief was accomplished.

There now seems to be every probability of a late, or rather comparatively late opening of the Tea Market. Shippers have, for once, combined (in a partial sort of way, it must be confessed) to repress their sagacious individuality, and to experiment in unity. Amongst "the heathen" the system of trade combination has hitherto worked extremely well, but it remains to be seen how far it will fall in with the preconceived ideas of the "enterprising."



It is announced that the splendid collection of Japanese and Chinese works of art belonging to M. Barbet de Jouy, the conservator of the Medieval and Renaissance departments of the Louvre, will shortly be offered by sale. M. Barbet de Jouy has been for many years one of the most distinguished collectors of this class of objects, and the sale of his valuable collection will likely to create sensation among connoisseurs. M. Ephraïm who has written a preface to the elaborate catalogue prepared by M. Gasparini, states, indeed, that M. Barbet de Jouy is "without a rival" in the taste and delicate judgment so necessary for the collector. He never admitted defective pieces, but sought only for the most perfect specimens, and therefore his collection has a remarkable purity and harmony that is not to be found in the heterogeneous gatherings of most collectors. It seems, indeed, to have been made from a sincere love of art, and not merely under the influence of the collecting passion. Among the treasures enumerated in the catalogue is the celebrated Persian carpet taken out of the Summer Palace, of which there was an illustration in Jacques Barbet's "History of Emperors,"







Salmon, Canton	110	100
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Salmon, Canton	110	100
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Salmon, Canton	110	100
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Butcher Meat.		肉食	
Bacon, English, . . . lb.	450 400	來路烟猪肉	
Am. Sausage, . . . lb.	250 200	其肉烟猪肉	

Salmon, Canton, . . . . .	catty	110	100
„ „ „ „ „	„	160	—
Salt Fish, . . . . .	„	120	90
Skate, . . . . .	„	60	50
Shrimps, . . . . .	„	60	50
Snappers, . . . . .	„	100	90
Snipe Fish, . . . . .	„	80	70
Soles, Fresh . . . . .	„	120	110
Tench, . . . . .	„	130	120
Turbot, . . . . .	„	150	—
Turtles, small, fresh water „	„	500	—
Whiting, . . . . .	„	110	90
<b>Fruits.</b>			
Aleurites, . . . . .	catty	50	40
Apples, California, . . . . .	„	500	350
Bananas, fragrant, Canton „	„	30	25
„ „ „ „ „	Manila „	60	50
„ „ „ „ „	common, „	25	20
Chestnuts, . . . . .	„	110	110
Citron, . . . . .	„	110	60
Cocosnuts . . . . .	each	50	45
Currants, . . . . .	bottle	400	350
Dates, . . . . .	bottle	500	400
Figs, Dried, . . . . .	box	750	—
Lemons, China, . . . . .	catty	80	70
Lichées, . . . . .	„	50	30
„ „ „ „ „	Dried, „	200	180
Limes, Saigon, . . . . .	„	80	—
Loong Ngan, Dried, . . . . .	„	400	800
Mangosteen, Singapore, each	„	80	25
Mangoes, Manila, . . . . .	each	80	70
„ „ „ „ „	Canton, catty	40	30
Musk Melons, . . . . .	„	20	—
Olives, green, . . . . .	„	40	80
Oranges, (Coolie) Canton „	„	60	50
Papaw, . . . . .	„	50	40
Peach, . . . . .	„	50	40
Pears, Nanking, . . . . .	„	100	80
„ „ „ „ „	Russet, „	40	—
Pine-apples, Singapore, each	„	80	70
Plantains, common . . . . .	catty	30	20
Plums, . . . . .	„	40	30
„ „ „ „ „	dark-red, „	30	20
Prunes, Dried, . . . . .	bottle	300	250
Pumelo, Oblong, . . . . .	each	80	60
Raisins, Muscatel, . . . . .	bottle	600	500
„ „ „ „ „	Pudding, „ lb.	200	150
Rose Apples, . . . . .	catty	60	50
Sugar Cane, . . . . .	stick	40	—
Tamarinds, . . . . .	catty	50	50
Walnuts, . . . . .	„	100	90
Water Chestnuts, . . . . .	„	60	50
<b>Vegetables.</b>			
Asparagus, . . . . .	tin	450	400
Beans, sprout, . . . . .	catty	20	15
„ „ „ „ „	broad, „	110	100
„ „ „ „ „	French, „	60	50
„ „ „ „ „	Long, Dolichos, „	30	20
Beet Root, . . . . .	each	10	—
Brussels, . . . . .	„	20	15
Brinjals, . . . . .	catty	15	10

Cabbage, Macao . . . each	150	120
„ Turnip (Bohl) . . . „	20	15

Cabbage, Macao . . . each	150	120
„ Turnip (Bohl) . . . „	20	15
Carrots, (Canton) . . . catty	40	30
Celery, Chinese, . . . „	40	—
Celery, English, . . . „	80	70
Chilies, Dried, . . . „	100	80
„ Fresh, . . . „	50	40
Cucumbers, . . . „	20	15
Curry Staw, English, . . . „	60	50

codfish, Salt,	160	鹹鰵魚
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Garlic, . . . . .	30	25
Onion, . . . . .	50	40
Gourd, snake . . . . .	40	30
Green Sprouts . . . . .	20	15
Horae Radish, Shanghai, . .	160	—
Lettuce, Chinese . . . . .	25	20
„ English . . . . .	10	9
Maize, Green corn, . . head	20	15
Mint, . . . . .	10	—
„ kraes, . . . . .	80	70
Onions, Bombay . . . . .	80	70

## 100 90 和 畫

Parsley, Onions,	" "	60	—
" English,	" bunch	10	5
Potatoes, Japanese,	" catty	25	20
" Masao,	" "	80	25
" Sweet,	" "	12	10
Pumpkin, Green,	" "	20	15
" Yellow Flat,	" "	15	12
Radishes, White,	" "	40	30
Callions,	" catty	25	20
Cassatum,	" "	80	70
Chalots,	" "	30	—
Pinach,	" "	15	—
Squash, bottle	" "	20	15

110	110	黑
100	90	紅

" hairy	"	40	\$0
tomatoes,	"	40	80
ana,	"		\$0

G. ORLEY, Inspector